

HOUSE BILL 1483

R5

2lr3291

By: **Delegates Clark and M. Fisher**

Rules suspended

Introduced and read first time: March 2, 2022

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Eluding Police – Penalties**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing certain penalties for attempting to elude a police officer; and
4 generally relating to penalties for eluding a police officer.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article – Transportation
7 Section 21–904
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
11 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article – Transportation**

13 21–904.

14 (a) In this section, “visual or audible signal” includes a signal by hand, voice,
15 emergency light or siren.

16 (b) If a police officer gives a visual or audible signal to stop and the police officer
17 is in uniform, prominently displaying the police officer’s badge or other insignia of office, a
18 driver of a vehicle may not attempt to elude the police officer by:

19 (1) Willfully failing to stop the driver’s vehicle;

20 (2) Fleeing on foot; or

21 (3) Any other means.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (c) If a police officer gives a visual or audible signal to stop and the police officer,
2 whether or not in uniform, is in a vehicle appropriately marked as an official police vehicle,
3 a driver of a vehicle may not attempt to elude the police officer by:

4 (1) Willfully failing to stop the driver's vehicle;

5 (2) Fleeing on foot; or

6 (3) Any other means.

7 (d) (1) A driver may not commit a violation of subsection (b)(1) or (c)(1) of this
8 section that results in bodily injury to another person.

9 (2) A driver may not commit a violation of subsection (b)(1) or (c)(1) of this
10 section that results in death of another person.

11 (e) (1) In this subsection, "crime of violence" has the meaning stated in §
12 14–101 of the Criminal Law Article.

13 (2) A driver may not commit a violation of subsection (b)(1) or (c)(1) of this
14 section while the driver is attempting to elude a police officer who is signaling for the driver
15 to stop for the purpose of apprehending the driver for the commission of a crime of violence
16 for which the driver is subsequently convicted.

17 (f) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, a person
18 [convicted of a violation of] **WHO VIOLATES** this section **IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND ON**
19 **CONVICTION** is subject to:

20 (i) For a first offense, imprisonment not exceeding [1 year] **3 YEARS**
21 or a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or both; and

22 (ii) For a second or subsequent offense, imprisonment not exceeding
23 **[2] 5** years or a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or both.

24 (2) A person [convicted of a violation of] **WHO VIOLATES** subsection (d)(1)
25 or (e) of this section **IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND ON CONVICTION** is subject to
26 imprisonment not exceeding **[3] 7** years or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both.

27 (3) A person [convicted of a violation of] **WHO VIOLATES** subsection (d)(2)
28 of this section **IS GUILTY OF A FELONY AND ON CONVICTION** is subject to imprisonment
29 not exceeding 10 years or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
31 October 1, 2022.